

Washington? It's a Wonderful Place!

"Efficient organization" has a point of diminishing return. The Hoover Commission and others have been trying to show for the past several years that the federal government long ago reached that point.

The average citizen seldom comes in contact with the government's over-organized efficiency which bogs down, sooner or later, in what is described as red tape.

But the other day we got a prime example of it. All we wanted was a census booklet. One thin booklet that tells how many people live in North Carolina.

Bravely, we wrote a letter to the Director of Census, which in the first place was stupid. Any moron should KNOW that the Director of the Census does not send out information on the census. So the letter was forwarded to the Superintendent of Documents.

After a month's journey through Capital City offices, it was returned. Judging from the number of figures, dates, check marks and stampings on it, it went through the hands of no less than 20 persons. It looks like a color map of Cherokee County. Accompanying it, believe it or not, was the desired booklet.

Also in the envelope was a printed slip of paper which explains what the various symbols, scrawled all over the letter, mean. Of course, the meanings are given only for symbols which are not even on the letter.

Only the brethren and sisters of the duly-initiated Washingtonian Tribe can interpret, evidently, "P. 4988, 22x, PL70, Ref. 59, 28, mf" etc. Heavens knows, our letter may now have turned into a secret document containing the key to an underground Communist code. If McCarthy only knew!

But Uncle Sam is honest when it comes to the pennies. A couple hundred million dollars? That's too hard to keep

track of. But 25 cents? That's how much we sent to cover the cost of the booklet. And in a big brown envelope we receive an itty-bitty coupon worth 5 cents which is our change because the book cost only 20 cents.

The coupon, of course, is good only on purchase of additional government booklets, but that's all right because a catalogue is sent listing all the other enlightening publications that originate with the Census Bureau. The only trouble is that we're not interested in more enlightenment, not even 5 cents worth.

Well, these occasional interchanges of communications with Washington certainly are a revelation. Probably we should be amazed that out of the maze we got any response at all.

Fathers Are Tops

We don't envy the judges who were kind enough to serve in the Father-of-the-Year contest. They had an extremely difficult job.

Looking over the bundle of ballots after the judges had done their job — and made a most worthy choice — we realized that every father nominated would have been a good choice as Father-of-the-Year.

Almost every reason given for nominating a father mentions sacrifice on his part for the betterment of the family, diligent work so the children could be sent to college, a Christian influence on his family and neighbors, patience and understanding during illness and numerous other factors that could be enumerated as qualities of the ideal father.

If most of the dads of this nation are half as wonderful as the nominees in the recent Father-of-the-Year contest, the future of all of us is a lot brighter than prophets of doom would have us believe.

Cattails Have Hidden Virtues

While lots of folks go to Canada to look for uranium or hope to strike oil in their backyard, Carteret Countians need only go out and gather "cattails." Scientists at Syracuse University have announced that the cattail is a "potential goldmine" of raw material for industrial and scientific uses.

But there's a catch: no use going out and harvesting those cattails down east just yet, there's no market for them.

But the scientists add, "When industry recognizes their potential value, it will be time enough to start harvesting them and turning over other land into swampy cattail farms."

The cattail root can be eaten like a potato or ground into flour. The flour can then be used to bake cookies. The flour also could be used as a substitute for corn starch, fermented to produce ethyl alcohol or used for growing molds from which antibiotics are produced.

The flower or fluff can be used to stuff lifejackets, baseballs and mattresses and was used this way during the second world war. A drying oil like linseed can be drawn from the seeds. A wax can be made from the seeds and the meal remaining used as cattle or chicken feed!

The scientists do not claim that all their discoveries are new. In the course of their study they have learned that Russia uses the cattail as a source of food, the French made ethyl alcohol from the stems and the Rumanians have used the cattail to refine a whisky.

Cattails, too, enrich the land they grow on and some of America's richest soil was created by decayed cattail stands.

So from now on, we'd do well to view the common cattail with a bit more respect. It could some day become quite important to the county's economy.

The Oppenheimer Case

(From The News Chronicle, London)

America has not much to be proud of in its treatment of Dr. Robert Oppenheimer. He seems to have become the victim not so much of blind anti-Communism as of a curious witch-hunt against men of ideas.

There is too much of this sort of thing in American life just now. A Congressional committee has been turning a routine inspection of Howard University into a sort of crusade against intellectuals who are accused of fostering "subversive" notions like the New Deal.

Such instinctive raising of hackles at men of ideas is probably a product of

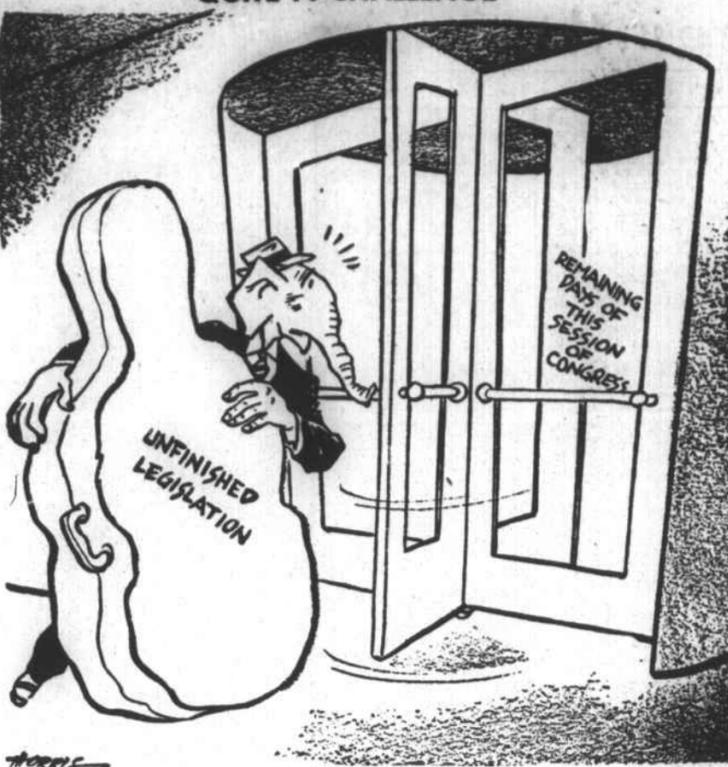
the atmosphere that McCarthy has created, but it could do more damage than McCarthyism. President Eisenhower was right, though late, when he tried to stamp upon it . . .

Freedom needs not only men who dare to dissent, but men who dare to let others do so.

Swiss scientists have discovered a drug which makes adults feel like children. But what we need is a drug which makes adults act like adults.

—Greensboro Daily News.

QUITE A CHALLENGE



In the Good Old Days

THIRTY-TWO YEARS AGO

William Dabney White was to start working as reporter for the Beaufort News next week.

Matt H. Allen and Charles L. Abernathy were running for the Democratic nomination for Congress. The primary to settle the issue would be held in July.

A. H. Harris, new county Farm Demonstration agent, had arrived to begin his duties here.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

The Gulf Refining Co. had opened a new filling station at Turner and Front Streets, Beaufort. L. D. Springle was manager and Hugh Piner was assistant manager.

Dr. Joseph McGuire, formerly of Dallas, Texas, was locating in Beaufort and would be associated with Dr. Maxwell, Dr. Johnson and Dr. Chadwick.

Miss Neva Willis and Mr. William J. Dail, both of Beaufort, were married in the Methodist parsonage.

TEN YEARS AGO

Beaufort Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, was granted a charter. The chapter was one year old this month.

Carteret county ice companies ran short of ice last week during one of the hottest weeks on record.

The dining room of the Beaufort Inn was closing for an indefinite period because of the ill health of Mrs. Eugene Carrow, operator.

FIVE YEARS AGO

The Junior Baseball League of Carteret County was to start play next week.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Harker, whose lodge on Harkers Island was destroyed by fire this week, planned to build cottages on the same site.

The Morehead City Chamber of Commerce asked the town commissioners for \$3,500 which would be used for advertising purposes.

The Readers Write

THE MOREHEAD PLANETARIUM

Atlantic, N. C.
June 17, 1954

To The Editor:

I learned that the North Star has not always occupied a fixed position in the sky; in fact, it is constantly moving. In a period of 20 minutes they spun me 12 thousand years in the Milky Way until that star had sunk below the northern horizon and appeared with its pointers in the Big Dipper, in a position so that it would rise and set like other constellations.

Regulus, I believe it was, had become the pole star, and the Southern Cross had turned up in our neighboring sky. Will we ever see that? Yes, in 14,000 A. D. While we will have time to get used to Regulus, as well as other stars; as our guide, and like it, and the gleaming Southern Cross and other fine stars that the Australians have had all their own, we will wonder if the heavens will ever come back like it used to be. Let us do a little plain arithmetic, no higher mathematics.

We are in the 34th parallel north latitude, not exactly of course. The Planetarium dropped the star that many degrees to the horizon; I do not know how many below.

If it dropped six degrees below, that is my guess from the appearance, the total drop was 40 per cent. And that is just one-ninth of 360 per cent around the earth from pole to pole.

If it takes 12,000 years to move one-ninth around, it takes nine times 12,000 years to go all the way around and back to its present position, just a matter of 108,000 years, the time for our great galaxy to make a revolution. And the good old North Star is back in its present position, all safe and sound from its journey.

In the meantime, it has been with us, rising and setting in the

sky like the great Orion and other constellations, tracking from north to south, letting the Australians use it for a pole star, and then tracking back to us.

And in that moment of everlasting time, we merely swapped the North Star for the Southern Cross with the folks down under, a swap that has been going on for eternity, every revolution of the Milky Way.

Meivin Robinson

Captain Henry

Sou'easter

A couple of surprising events occurred in the Front Street boat world last week. Roy Barbour was towed home Wednesday by Carl Smith and on the same day, but a lot later, the Lockwood Phillips' skiff was towed home.

That Lockwood was towed in is no surprise because we all take a tolerant view of his knowledge of engines. But it's who did the towing, and when, that's surprising. It was Ernest Davis who once in a while has had to be towed himself.

Roy's engine gave out, I hear, in the channel in broad daylight and in view of other boats. If he'd really been pressed though, I bet he could have fixed things and made it home.

Lockwood and his son Walter had along Harry Hill, mechanical superintendent of THE NEWS-TIMES, and C. C. McCuiston, Morehead City Golf Club pro-manager. The engine gave out about half way between the Banks and the entrance to First Deep Creek.

Night was fast descending. But a full moon gave them light by which they poled to shore and then pulled, pushed, poled and paddled to the head of Taylor's Creek where the swift-going tide was too much for them. There they anchored.

About 9 p.m. Mrs. Phillips asked Mr. Ernest Davis to please go searching and the always obliging Ernest took off. He didn't have far to go. Those four were very happy to see him. The deck of that skiff is pretty hard sleeping.

Story on Quakers To Start Friday

Starting Friday on this page will be a two-part story on the early Quakers in Carteret County.

Written by F. C. Salisbury of Morehead City, the story tells of the Quaker migration into Carteret in the early part of the 18th century and of the ancestors of Edwin M. Stanton, Lincoln's Secretary of War.

The Edward Stanton home, now owned by J. S. Sabiston, still stands in the Core Creek Community.

Jane Eads

Washington

It was a day full of surprises for Chief Justice Warren as well as his wife.

Mrs. Warren said she had no inkling her husband was going to hand down the important Supreme Court decision outlawing segregation in the public schools of the land. She had gone to the court with her daughter, Virginia, with a carefully guarded plan to surprise him.

"And he was most happily surprised," she told me, "when he saw standing before him, seeking admission to practice before the Supreme Court, his old friend Miss Helen MacGregor of Oakland, who had worked for him more than 20 years while he was district attorney, attorney general and governor of California."

Miss MacGregor, whom Warren appointed to the California Youth Authority, had come to Washington for the day from Atlantic City, where she was attending a conference. In on the secret was Warren Olney, who also long worked with Warren and had been appointed by him to serve on California's Crime Commission. Now in Washington on the staff of the U. S. attorney general, he was sponsoring Miss MacGregor's admission.

Another surprise for the Chief Justice was the appearance of Robert Moseley, a nephew, who had just returned from Indo-China. Moseley is the son of Mrs. Warren's brother-in-law, Dr. Thomas Moseley, dean of the Nyack (N.Y.) Bible Institute.

"We went to surprise my husband, and he surprised us," Mrs. Warren laughed. "It was quite a day."

The Warrens, who had their troubles finding a house in Washington, finally decided to settle for a large apartment in the hotel where the widow of the late Chief Justice Fred M. Vinson still lives.

I suggested that Mrs. Warren barely had time to get homesick for California. "But I am homesick for my youngsters — I just can't tell you how much," she said. "Yesterday I started putting their pictures up. I just couldn't put them in the bedroom."

Virginia, 24, the eldest, is the only one of the Warren's children with her parents. Dorothy, 22, Nina, 19, and their brother, Robert, 18, are attending the University of California. Two other sons, James and Earl Jr., are married and living in California.

Today's Birthday

GOWER CHAMPION, born June 22, 1921 in Geneva, Ill., son of an advertising executive. The popular dancer and choreographer, teamed with his wife

Marge, has appeared in numerous films and night clubs. First received nation-wide acclaim on television. Won an amateur dance contest at 18. While making professional appearances he studied ballet and modern dancing. Teamed with Marge in 1947, a few days after their marriage.

dog owned by the hero of the preceding story.

The other night at the Davis home, Joe kept herding Buddy into the kitchen every time the back door opened. Like the teacher in the nursery rhyme, the Davis' turned the lamb out, much to Joe's disgust. Nobody appreciated his herding efforts.

This is the Law

By CHARLES W. DANIEL
For the N. C. Bar Association

Crimes

A "crime" is any act, or conduct, which has been declared a crime by the state and for which the individual or group responsible may be publicly punished, either by fine, or imprisonment, or both.

North Carolina divides crimes into two general classifications: misdemeanors and felonies. A felony is a crime which is or may be punishable by either death or imprisonment in the state's prisons. Any other crime is a misdemeanor.

The distinction between the two classifications of crime is important for several reasons. Not the least of these is the fact that one convicted of a felony loses his citizenship and its attendant rights, including the right to vote or hold public office. A person convicted of a misdemeanor is not severely penalized. Citizenship lost upon conviction of a felony may be restored by law (outlined in Chapter 13 of the General Statutes).

Petition for Citizenship
A convicted felon, after he has served his time or paid off, may get back his citizenship by filing a petition in the Superior Court, setting out his occupation since his release and the reasons why he believes he should be reinstated as a full-fledged citizen. The felon must wait two years after release before filing this petition.

Then the clerk of court must advertise the fact that a hearing on the petition is to be held, so that those who might oppose the restoration could appear. On the actual hearing before the Superior Court Judge, the felon must prove by "five respectable witnesses" that his "character" for truth and honesty has been good for three years.

The difference between felony and misdemeanor is also important because there is no time limit against prosecuting felonies. On the other hand, the time limit after which a person may not be prosecuted for a misdemeanor is two years. This means that if one commits a simple assault or an ordinary trespass (which are misdemeanors) and the state fails to prosecute for two years thereafter, it is barred forever and the offender is free.

However, if one commits murder or any other felony, he may be prosecuted for it at the pleasure of the state, no matter how much time might have elapsed before the criminal action is started.

Offense Against State
All crimes are offenses against the state. They are infractions of state laws or, the "common law" which is unwritten. It is for this reason that criminal cases in all courts are labeled "State (of North Carolina) v. John Doe (defendant)."

The General Assembly and certain state administrative agencies over the years have determined

what kind of conduct shall constitute crime. It was the General Assembly which determined that rape, first degree murder, burglary, and arson are "capital crimes," punishable by death in North Carolina. Kidnaping is punishable by life imprisonment.

Double Jeopardy
The Federal Constitution protects the individual against "double jeopardy"—trial more than once for the same offense. On this point the question arises "When does the protection of the double jeopardy provision begin to work? When is a trial a trial, after which the state cannot quit and begin again later, or after which the state cannot prosecute the defendant on the identical evidence?"

Generally, it may be said that a defendant has been placed in "jeopardy" after the jury has been impaneled and the defendant arraigned. If the state goes far in prosecuting an accused person, it cannot later try the same individual for the original offense, unless the trial judge finds facts legally sufficient as a basis for ordering a mistrial.

In such case, the accused could be tried again for the same offense. The accused could also be tried again if a mistrial in the first hearing should be ordered on motion of the accused, himself.

A person accused of a minor crime which can be tried by a Recorder's Court or a Justice of the Peace may plead "not guilty" and yet have his case heard by the judge without a jury. This is not true of cases heard in Superior Court. There, every case in which a plea of "not guilty" is entered MUST be heard by a jury.

Give All the Facts
Many persons, seeking the aid of an attorney to defend them against charges of crime, make the gross error of withholding some of the facts from the attorney.

No attorney can properly defend against an alleged crime unless he is given all the facts within the knowledge of his client. A person accused of crime should have no qualms about telling his lawyer truthfully everything he knows about the case. The attorney's relationship with the client is completely confidential. The attorney has taken an oath to protect — within the law — the interest of the client. Remember these facts if you are ever accused of a crime. They could easily be the difference between prison and freedom.

Last of Series: This is the last in the current series of articles "This Is The Law." The North Carolina Bar Association hopes that you have found the articles informative. Another series of similar columns, designed to better acquaint readers of THE NEWS-TIMES with our basic laws and court procedures, will be offered next fall.

Ruth Peeling

'Conformity' Factor Gives Rise to Question

I was somewhat puzzled by one of the three factors on which entrants in recent beauty contests were judged. Two of the factors, beauty and poise, I understood. But "conformity" meant nothing until it was explained to me that what the girls were being judged on was conformity without the "con" or the "ity."

Rumor from Raleigh has it that the next legislature will remove the word "assistant" from in front of Gehrman Holland's title which is now "assistant commercial fisheries commissioner."

Mr. Holland whose name for almost 16 years was preceded by the title "sheriff" in Carteret was appointed in the fall of last year to the fisheries job, replacing C. D. Kirkpatrick. He ably has been enforcing the fisheries laws and regulations since then, doing the same job that Captain John Nelson did prior to Mr. Kirkpatrick.

But the general assembly of 1953 passed a law during Kirkpatrick's term which provided for a "commissioner" and an "assistant commissioner." The theory was that the top fisheries official would be someone who not only knew the catching, marketing and promotion end of the fishing industry but also had training in fisheries biology. The "assistant commissioner" would be the industry's "policeman," just as the commissioner had been in the past.

Well, in theory that is splendid. A man such as the statute defined would, ideally, be satisfactory to the man who hauls a net and at the same time he would be receptive to suggestions offered by scientists in the state's fisheries program.

But finding such a person is not as easy as writing the law. It's almost the same as trying to find a fireball pitcher for a ball team who at the same time can hit homers every time he picks up the bat. The combination is rare and if you find him the price is high.

The pay for commissioner was set at \$9,000. They say that the man-of-the-fishermen and biologist combination, even if he could be

found, would not accept the job at that figure. And there's something else to consider—men who have scientific training shy away from political jobs.

If they are not members of a university faculty, they are pulling down very comfortable salaries in private industry. University affiliation, though the pay may not be high, carries with it a certain prestige not to be found in industry or politics.

Thus, while the 1953 law on the fisheries jobs looks good on paper, it has proved frustrating in execution. That's why it is being said that Assistant Commissioner Holland may soon be commissioner . . .

In case anybody is wondering whether Wiley Taylor is mad at Claud Wheatly or vice versa, because of recent canonization comments, they can rest assured that such is not the case. Wiley and Claud were talking together happily when the sainthood matter came up, and Claud says his comment is not to be interpreted as an opinion on the race track matter, for or against.

Persons in on recent discussions between the State Utilities Commission and Southern Railway regarding removal of one of the Southern passenger trains between Goldsboro and Greensboro say that the Southern is making no commitments on running passenger trains between Eastern Carolina Marine bases and Selma (where connections can be made with the Atlantic Coast Line). The Navy department has been requesting such.

As for the so-called proposal regarding Southern's acquiring the lease of the Atlantic and East Carolina Railroad which runs from Goldsboro to Morehead City, that too is still said to be up in the air.

Persons who have booked passage on the M/S Stockholm which will sail from Morehead City for the Caribbean in October may be interested in knowing that the luxury liner is sailing from New York tomorrow, bound for Copenhagen, Denmark!

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